Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1.   (Currently amended) In a ~~personal and business information~~ web card system including at least a server having at least a database and a search engine, a privacy control system comprising:

  a) means for storing ~~a set of~~ web card information of ~~each individual~~ a first user of the web card system in the database, wherein the web card information can be used to generate web cards having different versions corresponding to different privacy control levels;

  b) means for storing a table comprising names of other users of the web card system and authorization codes, wherein each of the names of the other users in the table is associated with one of the authorization codes, and ~~means for determining privacy control levels of the web card information of the individual user as selected by the individual user~~ wherein different authorization codes are associated with different privacy control levels;

  ~~c) means for transmitting , at the registration user's initiation, selected web card information of a particular privacy control level with an authorization code to other users;~~

  ~~d)~~ c) means for ~~storing a table of authorized names of the other users for each level of privacy control~~ receiving an authorization code and a search request for web card information of the first user from a second user of the web card system;

  ~~e)~~ d) means for ~~looking through the table of authorized users' names when any of the other users conducts a search~~ searching for the name of the second user in the table and determining whether the authorization code received from the second user matches the authorization code associated with the second user in the table; ~~and~~

  ~~f)~~ e) means for generating a ~~corresponding~~ web card of the ~~individual~~ first user ~~to~~

~~the other user once the authorization is confirmed~~ corresponding to the version of the web card associated with the privacy control level that is associated with the authorization code of the second user; and

f)   means for transmitting the generated web card to the second user.

2.   (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The privacy control system of claim 1, wherein said means for storing ~~the~~ web card information is part of said database.

3.   (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The privacy control system of claim 1, wherein said means for storing a table ~~of authorized names~~ comprising names of other users of the web card system and authorization codes is part of said database.

Claim 4 (canceled).

5.   (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The privacy control system of claim 1, wherein said means for transmitting ~~selected web card information and means for~~ ~~generating a~~ ~~corresponding~~ the generated web card ~~are~~ is part of said search engine.

6.   (Currently amended) A method of controlling privacy in a personal web card system ~~including~~ that includes at least a web card server having at least a database and a search engine, comprising the steps of:

a)   storing ~~a set of~~ web card information of ~~each individual~~ a first user of the web card system in ~~the~~ database, wherein the web card information can be used to generate web cards having different versions corresponding to different privacy control levels;

b)   providing a table comprising names of other users of the web card system and authorization codes, wherein each of the names of the other users in the table is associated with one of the authorization codes, and ~~determining privacy control~~ ~~levels of the web card information of the individual user as selected by the~~

~~individual user~~ wherein different authorization codes are associated with different privacy control levels;

c) ~~transmitting , at registered user's initiation, selected web card information of a particular privacy control level with an authorization code to other users~~ receiving a search request for web card information of the first user and, optionally, an authorization code from a second user of the web card system;

~~d) storing a table of authorized names of the other users for each level of privacy control;~~

~~e)~~ d) ~~looking through the table of authorized users' names when any of other users conducts a search~~ if the search request includes an authorization code, searching for the name of the second user in the table and determining whether the authorization code received from the second user matches the authorization code associated with the second user in the table; ~~and~~

~~f)~~ e) if the authorization code received from the second user matches the authorization code associated with the second user in the table, generating a ~~corresponding~~ web card of the ~~individual~~ first user ~~to the other user once the authorization is confirmed~~ corresponding to the version of the web card associated with the privacy control level that is associated with the authorization code of the second user; and

f) sending the generated web card to the second user.

7.   (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method of controlling privacy of claim 6, wherein ~~said search server includes a privacy control unit, that determines the status of a searcher who submits a search inquiry, and automatically gives the searcher a security code if the searcher is determined as a first time searching a predetermined registered user~~ if the search request from the second user does not include an authorization code, the web card server sends a limited access authorization code to the second user.

Claim 8 (canceled).

9.   (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method of controlling privacy of claim 6, wherein

there are at least three versions of web cards corresponding to at least three levels of privacy control ~~of issuance of the web cards~~.

10.   (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method of controlling privacy of claim 9, wherein the three versions of web cards ~~are~~ comprise a simplified version card for unknown searchers or searchers given limited access authorization, ~~and~~ a regular version card for regular social and working contacts, and a detailed version card for family and close friends.

11.   (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method of controlling privacy of claim 7, ~~wherein there is~~ further comprising a fourth ~~version~~ web card version comprising ~~for~~ emergency information including at least health, medical, insurance, and legal matters.

12.   (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method of controlling privacy of claim 6, wherein the web card system ~~will transmit~~ transmits from time to time ~~all personal~~ web card information to ~~other selected and~~ designated users of such information ~~, respectively,~~ in accordance with the authorization given to these users.

13.   (New) The privacy control system of claim 1, further comprising means for transmitting one or more authorization codes to the other users of the web card system.

14.   (New) The method of controlling privacy of claim 6, further comprising the step of sending one or more authorization codes to corresponding users of the web card system in the table.